

Above all, the most extraordinary and significant progress has been made under the direction of the department of agriculture in extending and perfecting practical farm demonstration work which is so rapidly substituting scientific for empirical farming. But it is also necessary that rural activities should be better directed through co-operation and organization, that unfair methods of competition should be eliminated and the conditions requisite for the just, orderly and economical marketing of farm products created.

We approve the Democratic administration for having emphatically directed attention for the first time to the essential interests of agriculture involved in farm marketing and finance, for creating the office of markets and rural organization in connection with the department of agriculture, and for extending the co-operative machinery necessary for conveying information to farmers by means of demonstrations. We favor continued liberal provision, not only for the benefit of production, but also for the study and solution of problems of farm marketing and finance and for the extension of existing agencies for improving country life.

#### GOOD ROADS.

The happiness, comfort and prosperity of rural life, and the development of the city, are alike conserved by the construction of public highways. We, therefore, favor national aid in the construction of post roads and roads for military purposes.

#### GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT.

We hold that the life, health and strength of the men, women and children of the nation are its greatest asset, and that in the conservation of these the federal government, wherever it acts as the employer of labor, should both on its own account and as an example, put into effect the following principles of just employment:

1. A living wage for all employes.
2. A working day not to exceed eight hours, with one day of rest in seven.
3. The adoption of safety appliances and the establishment of thoroughly sanitary conditions of labor.
4. Adequate compensation for industrial accidents.
5. The standards of the "uniform child labor law" wherever minors are employed.
6. Such provisions for decency, comfort and health in the employment of women as should be accorded the mothers of the race.
7. An equitable retirement law providing for the retirement of superannuated and disabled employes of the civil service to the end that a higher standard of efficiency may be maintained.

We believe also that the adoption of similar principles should be urged and applied in the legislation of the States with regard to labor within their borders and that through every possible agency the life and health of the people of the nation should be conserved.

#### LABOR.

We declare our faith in the seamen's act, passed by the Democratic Congress, and we promise our earnest continuance of its enforcement.

We favor the speedy enactment of an effective federal child labor law and the regulation of the shipment of prison-made goods in interstate commerce.

We favor the creation of a federal bureau of safety in the department of labor, to gather facts concerning industrial hazards and to recommend legislation to prevent the maiming and killing of human beings.

We favor the extension of the powers and functions of the federal bureau of mines.

We favor the development upon a systematic scale of the means already begun under the present administration to assist laborers throughout the nation to seek and obtain employment and the extension by the federal government by the same assistance and encouragement as is now given to agricultural training.

We heartily commend our newly established department of labor for its excellent record in settling industrial strikes by personal advice and through conciliating agents.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH.

We favor a thorough reconsideration of the means and methods by which the federal government handles questions of public health, to the end that human life may be conserved by the elimination of leathsome diseases, the improvement of sanitation and the diffusion of a knowledge of disease prevention.

We favor the establishment by the federal government of tuberculosis sanatoriums for needy tubercular patients.

#### SENATE RULES.

We favor such an alteration of the rules of procedure of the Senate of the United States as will permit the prompt transaction of the nation's legislative business.

#### ECONOMY AND THE BUDGET.

We demand careful economy in all expenditures for the support of the government, and to that end favor a return by the House of Representatives to its former practice of initiating and preparing all appropriation bills through a single committee chosen from its membership, in order that responsibility may be centered, expenditures standardized and made uniform and waste and duplication in the public service as much as possible, avoided. We favor this as a practicable first step toward a budget system.

#### CIVIL SERVICE.

We reaffirm our declarations for the rigid enforcement of the civil service laws.

#### PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

We heartily indorse the provisions of the bill, recently passed by the House of Representatives, further promoting self-government in the Philippine Islands as be-

ing in fulfillment of the policy declared by the Democratic party in its last national platform, and we reiterate our indorsement of the purpose of ultimate independence for the Philippine Islands, expressed in the preamble of that measure.

#### WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

We recommend the extension of the franchise to the women of the country by States upon the same terms as to men.

#### PROTECTION OF CITIZENS.

We again declare the policy that the sacred rights of American citizenship must be preserved at home and abroad, and that no treaty with any other government shall receive the sanction of our government which does not expressly recognize the absolute equality of all our citizens, irrespective of race, creed or previous nationality, and which does not recognize the right of expatriation.

The American government should protect American citizens in their rights not only at home, but abroad, and any country having a government should be held to strict accountability for any wrongs done them, either to person or property. At the earliest practical opportunity, our country should strive earnestly for peace among the warring nations of Europe and seek to bring about the adoption of the fundamental principle of justice and humanity, that all men shall enjoy equality of right and freedom from discrimination in the lands wherein they dwell.

#### PRISON REFORM.

We demand that the modern principles of prison reform be applied in our federal penal system. We favor such work for prisoners as shall give them training in remunerative occupations, so that they may make an honest living when released from prison; the setting apart of the net wages of the prisoner to be paid to his dependent family or to be reserved for his own use upon his release; the liberal extension of the principles of the federal parole law, with due regard both to the welfare of the prisoner and the interests of society; the adoption of the probation system, especially in the case of first offenders not convicted of serious crime.

#### PENSIONS.

We renew the declarations of recent Democratic platforms relating to generous pensions for soldiers and their widows, and call attention to our record of performance in this particular.

#### WATERWAYS AND FLOOD CONTROL.

We renew the declaration in our last two platforms relating to the development of our waterways. The recent devastation of the lower Mississippi valley and several other sections by floods, accentuates the movement for the regulation of river flow by additional bank and levee protection below and diversion, storage and control of the flood waters above, and their utilization for beneficial purposes in the reclamation.

# THE PRESIDENT'S MEXICAN POLICY

Presented in an Authorized Interview by the Secretary of the Interior, FRANKLIN K. LANE.

President Wilson's Mexican policy is one of the things of which, as a member of his Administration, I am most proud," says Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, in an authorized interview in the New York World. "It shows so well his abounding faith in humanity, his profound philosophy of Democracy and his unshakable belief in the ultimate triumph of Liberty, Justice and Right. He has never sought the easy solution of any of the difficult questions that have arisen in the last three years. He has always sought the right solution.

"Mr. Wilson's Mexican policy has not been weak and vacillating. It has been definite and consistent, firm and constructive. How firm is already known to those who have sought to force American intervention in Mexico; how constructive will best be appreciated fifty years from now by the whole world. It was to Mexico perhaps more than to anything that the President referred the other day when he said that he was playing for the verdict of mankind. "The policy of the United States toward Mexico is a policy of hope and of helpfulness. It is a policy of Mexico for the Mexicans. That, after all, is the traditional policy of this country—it is the policy that drove Maximilian out of Mexico."

#### THE DOCTRINE OF SYMPATHY.

Secretary of the Interior Lane made this statement at his summer camp on the shores of Lake Champlain. He expressed forcefully his conviction that the President was right when he refused to recognize Huerta, and declared that the murderer of Madero must go, right when he occupied the Port of Vera Cruz, right when he accepted the offer of mediation extended by the A. B. C. right when he added by the agreement reached at Niagara Falls, right when he withdrew from Vera Cruz, right when he recognized Carranza as head of the de facto Government, and right when he sent the United States army into Mexico after the bandit raid on Columbus. Mr. Lane said:

"The doctrine of force has been worked to its limit in Mexico. President Wilson believes that the doctrine of sympathy should have its chance in that country and this is the foundation of his Mexican policy. "The sympathy that Mexico needs is the sympathy of understanding. Mexico is a bad neighbor now. There is no use in denying this. Our neighbor's sewerage is

running over into our lot, and we must find some way to stop it even if we have to go over the boundary line and stop the pipes ourselves. This is the easiest thing in the world to say, but to respect the letter of the law and at the same time abate a nuisance that is not on your own property is one of the most difficult things in the world.

"Mexico will always be a nuisance to us until a few fundamental reforms are put into effect there. If it is to be lasting, however, some one inside of Mexico must do it. It cannot be done by us unless we are prepared not only to conquer Mexico but to annex Mexico. We should not only have to make war on Mexico and impose peace by force, but after giving it a preliminary cleaning up we should have to establish and maintain indefinitely a government there.

#### SURVEY OF DIAZ'S REGIME.

"Diaz was a great man, a very great man. I doubt if, with the possible exception of Bismarck, there was a greater man alive in his day. After the war of Russia he was the most absolute despot of modern times.

"The peace that he had maintained was an imposed peace not coming from the people themselves. Diaz ruled by fear. He had gone into office with promises upon his lips, and I am willing to believe that he meant to keep them. But once in power he was appalled by the span of years necessary for the slow process of constructive civilization, and he determined that to gain time Mexico was to be saved by two things, force and wealth.

"During Diaz's time I had a very interesting talk with a great lawyer in Mexico City who was an office holder in the Diaz regime. I asked him the current question: 'After Diaz, what?' To my surprise the man said: 'I am a Constitutionalist. Either before Diaz dies or immediately upon his death a revolution will break out in Mexico having for its purpose three things—the restoration of the land to the people, the establishment of public schools throughout the country, and a judicial system in which the courts will decide according to law and not according to executive desires.'

"The Madero revolution followed exactly on these lines, but Madero was a dreamer, an idealist, a man who took his Constitution seriously and who failed for two reasons, or rather because of two weaknesses of his own character. He was not strong enough to suppress the rapacious rascals

who surrounded him, and he was not practical enough to deliver the goods that he had promised.

"Huerta was his Commander in Chief, a soldier trained by Diaz and dominated by Diaz's friends. He too believed in saving Mexico by force and wealth; he was in complete sympathy with the philosophy expressed in the Diaz administration. There is no truth in the oft-repeated allegation that all the trouble with Mexico would have been avoided if President Wilson had recognized Huerta. I ask any one who wishes to be fair to this Administration to look back three years and read the newspapers of that day and the debates in Congress in which the murder of Madero and Suarez was denounced.

#### WHY WE SAID "HUERTA MUST GO."

"Had we recognized Huerta or had we not taken a positive stand against him the criticism this administration has received for the policy we have pursued would be as nothing to what would now overwhelm us. Who were the American statesmen who demanded Huerta's recognition? No one then believed and no one really believes now that the recognition of Huerta would have solved the Mexican problem.

"Although it is self-evident that this country, as the champion of constitutional government in America, can never recognize a military despotism based upon assassination, it is not necessary to call Huerta an assassin in order to justify our refusal to recognize him. His attempted dictatorship was but a fiction of government. With the elected President and Vice-President murdered and the Minister of State, who was their lawful successor, cowed into submission, Huerta took the reins of power at the best as a temporary stop-gap.

"The revolution against Huerta broke out immediately upon the news of Madero's death. The correspondence between Huerta and Carranza recently published shows that every practical inducement was held out to Carranza to put an end to his revolutionary movement. We Carranza's credit he it said, he refused to come to terms with those who he believed had been the cause of the President's death and who had set to one side the laws of his country.

#### A NEW WORLD CIVILIZATION.

"It is not to be forgotten that Huerta did not pretend even to be a constitutional ruler. He sent word to the United States

of 626 and swar p laids, and development of water power, instead of permitting the flood to continue as heretofore, agents of destruction.

We hold that the control of the Mississippi River is a national problem. The preservation of the depth of its waters for purposes of navigation, the building of levees and works of bank protection to maintain the integrity of its channel and prevent the overflow of its valley resulting in the interrupted of interstate commerce, the disorganization of the mail service and the enormous loss of life and property, impose an obligation which alone can be discharged by the national government.

We favor the adoption of a liberal and comprehensive plan for the development and improvement of our harbors and inland waterways with economy and efficiency, so as to permit their navigation by vessels of standard draft.

#### ALASKA.

It has been and will be the policy of the Democratic party to enact all laws necessary for the speedy development of Alaska and its great natural resources.

#### TERRITORIES.

We favor granting to the people of Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico the traditional territorial government accorded to all territories of the United States since the beginning of our government, and we believe the officials appointed to administer the government of these several territories should be qualified by previous bona fide residence.

#### CANDIDATES.

We unreservedly indorse our President and Vice President, Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, and Thomas Riley Marshall, of Indiana, who have performed the functions of their great offices faithfully and impartially and with distinguished ability.

In particular we commend to the American people the splendid diplomatic victories of our great President, who has preserved the vital interests of our government and its citizens and kept us out of war. Woodrow Wilson stands today the greatest American of his generation.

#### CONCLUSION.

This is a critical hour in the history of America, a critical hour in the history of the world. Upon the record above set forth, which shows great constructive achievement in following out a consistent policy for our domestic and internal development; upon the record of the Democratic administration which has maintained the honor, the dignity and the interests of the United States, and at the same time retained the respect and friendship of all the nations of the world, and upon the great policies for the future strengthening of the life of our country, the endorsement of our national vision and the ennobling of our international relations as set forth above, we appeal with confidence to the voters of the country.

that he had taken the Government of Mexico into his own hands and that he was all the law that was to be found in Mexico. His statement was so bold that even the Supreme Court of Mexico uttered a feeble protest, which was somewhat more loudly echoed in the Mexican Senate.

"In the face of this, Huerta asked for resignation from the United States, but President Taft felt that he could not conscientiously grant it, and he left the problem to be dealt with by his successor, who had already been elected. That was the situation when President Wilson took office. Could President Wilson have recognized Huerta? Surely there can be but one answer to that question—No!

"To have recognized Huerta would have been a two-fold injustice. First, to the people of Mexico, and secondly, to all the people of South and Central America. To give to the Commander in Chief of an army recognition as President under such circumstances would have been to announce to all ambitious military officers that they had but to ally themselves with a successful junta, seize the Government by force, murder the lawful incumbents and announce the overthrow of all law and a supreme military dictatorship in order to gain the recognition of the United States, we being thoroughly aware of all that had happened.

#### HIS FACE SET AGAINST INTERVENTION.

"During Huerta's regime we learned much of the ability of the Mexican as a diplomat. The notes that came from Mexico were models of the Seventeenth Century style of diplomatic state paper. President Wilson attempted, it will be remembered, to find a basis upon which there could be set up in Mexico a Government that we could recognize. There was nothing peremptory about our attitude in the beginning of the diplomatic exchanges.

"Our whole effort was to the obtaining of a republican form of Government in Mexico which would have the people back of it, and guarantees against the establishment of an absolutism on our Southern border under which the people of Mexico would so chafe that we should have a constant state of revolution there.

"Many of the best Mexicans were in sympathy with the attitude that the United States took toward Huerta. They knew that stability of Government was not to be hoped for under a man of his temperament